

**CHRISTMAS** finds the big stores ready to serve you with the world's choices in good things to eat. Prices will unusually low. We're counting on your cooperation to make these last two weeks of the year, record breakers.

## SUGAR—Best standard granulated 10 lbs. for 69c

Flour is Down Again—Pride of Topeka—super-fine quality, 48 lb. sk. \$2.29 A. 1 Brand—fine quality, 48 lb. sk. \$2.19

**POULTRY**—We supply the most expert dressers in the city. All stock is carefully selected, 5/16, 1 quality and prices have been cut to the bottom.

**CHRISTMAS**—Exceptionally fine quality at 10 lbs. 2 for \$1.00. Cakes—Dwarf, large, and extra large; crisp and tender; lowest prices. Oysters—We handle only the very best selected stock. Prices, per quart, 2 for \$1.00. Silver Plated Corn Flakes, the 10c pkgs. 2 for \$1.00. Cream of Rice, the 15c pkgs. 2 for \$1.00. Cottage Wheat—Superior to Cream of Wheat, 15c pkgs. 2 for \$1.00.

**TOPEKA CUP COFFEE**—always the same, always good, 10 lbs. \$2.00. "Excellent" Coffee—world's finest flavor, 10 lbs. \$2.00. Pickles—Sweet and Sour, 10 lbs. \$2.00. Extra large Dill Pickles, 10 lbs. \$2.00. Queen Olives—medium size, 10 lbs. \$2.00. Lob Cakes—Krupp, 10 lbs. \$2.00. Fancy Shelled Popcorn, 10 lbs. \$2.00. Stollwerck's Bitter Chocolate, 20c. Stollwerck's Breakfast Cocoa, 25c. Stollwerck's Cocoa, 25c.

## Dibble's Christmas Gift Store 2nd Floor 6th St. Store Where your money goes farthest

**CANDY AND NUTS**—Lowest Prices. Special Sale—Battle Ax Chocolate Creams, per lb. \$1.00. Free Tuesday and Wednesday—25c. Fully candy boxes free with each 25-lb. candy order. Special prices to churches, schools, etc., on quantities.

**Best quality No. 1 Mixed Nuts, 10 lbs. 2 for \$1.00.**

**No. 2 Mixed Nuts, 10 lbs. 2 for \$1.00.**

**Fancy Shelled Almonds, 10 lbs. 2 for \$1.00.**

**Fancy Soft Shelled California Walnuts, 10 lbs. 2 for \$1.00.**

**No. 1 Imported Walnuts, 10 lbs. 2 for \$1.00.**

Free delivery on all orders of any size to all parts of the city the same as usual.

## CHIEF OF STAFF DECLARES ARMY SYSTEM FAILURE

General Scott Urges Compulsory Military Training.

Cites Border Organization as Timely Illustration.

## WAR NOW FINISHED SCIENCE

European War Furnishes Valuable Lesson for U. S.

Should Have 3,000,000 Men Available on 90-Day Notice.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Major General Scott, chief of staff of the army, told the senate military committee that the army general staff recommended without apology that the volunteer system be discarded because "the time has come when this country, unless it intends to avoid any and every resort to universal liability to military training and service."

Arraigning the volunteer system as unscientific, the chief of staff told the committee that universal training would be democratic, reliable, efficient and economical and within a few years would render the United States immune from attack.

"It would be democratic," he said, "because the burden of national defense would fall equally upon all citizens. It would make it impossible for any man or group of men to trade upon the nation's necessities in time of war. The system would be reliable because it would produce each year the number of men necessary to be trained. It would be economical because it would be based upon recognition by the people of the duty of the individual to serve his country."

Failed to Recruit Guards. At the outset General Scott pointed out that the Mexican crisis had failed to recruit many national guard organizations even to their minimum peace strength.

"The failure should make the whole people realize that the volunteer system does not, and probably will not give us either the men we need in peace or for service in war."

Reviewing the intensive training which European and other nations require, he declared that if American troops ever come to compete with highly trained and splendidly disciplined forces they would require training and discipline at least equal to that of the Europeans.

The lessons of the European war, the general said, had demonstrated that a higher standard of training and discipline were required than had been popularly considered necessary before and that most of the European nations for that reason found it utterly impractical to develop them in less than two years of the conflict.

192 Hours Training Not Enough. "It should be obvious," he said, "that 192 hours of training prescribed for the national guard is utterly inadequate to prepare this force for war service."

For war with a first class power, the general staff had previously estimated that 500,000 fully equipped troops should be ready at the outbreak and that 500,000 men should be available in 90 days. In view of the lessons of the war, the general was now of the opinion that these numbers should be tripled and that 1,500,000 fully equipped and ready troops should be available within another 1,500,000 to follow in 90 days.

Dubious About British. "It should be pointed out also that our northern neighbor is in alliance with a powerful Oriental nation—an other island empire—and for the same reason when war should break out, a power which has control of the sea has ability to send its army of 2,225,000 men to any part of the world without danger of invasion."

"I think a mere statement of these facts makes it clear that at present we are practically defenseless before the veteran armies of our northern neighbor and could easily be crushed by the existing coalition of the island empires."

## SNAP SHOTS AT HOME NEWS

Harold Knapp will spend the Christmas holidays with an uncle in Arkansas.

C. A. G. Heiligstedt, boys' secretary of the Y. M. C. A., will spend Christmas week with his parents in St. Louis.

Dr. Jesse D. Cook has returned to Topeka after several months spent in post-graduate work in New York and Baltimore.

George A. Hoyer, secretary of the Central Y. M. C. A., will address the regular meeting of the Walnut Grove Brotherhood tonight on "John Smith, of Padonk."

Handball tournaments at the Y. M. C. A. will be terminated next week, following which plans for an elimination handball tournament for the championship of the city to be held in January will be made.

The line of taxpayers reached from the county treasurer's wicket to the front door of the court house practically all day today, Wednesday, December 20, is the last day for payment of taxes without an added penalty.

Snowy weather caused a slight diminution in the customary attendance at the municipal organ recitals. Nevertheless a good sized crowd was on hand to hear Dean Whitehouse render one of the best programs of the season Sunday afternoon at the auditorium.

Plans for a New Year's housewarming were discussed at a luncheon today by the team captains of the Chamber of Commerce, Charles Mitchell is chairman in charge of the program. All the members of the Chamber of Commerce and their wives will be invited to attend the dinner and reception.

At a meeting of the welfare committee at the Chamber of Commerce today at noon, a resolution was passed advising the city commission that, in the committee's judgment, they should make equal appropriations for the Provident association and the Public Health Nursing association. Routine business was attended to.

L. L. Kiene, sheriff, has gone to Kansas City to learn whether or not the Missouri authorities want to prosecute Mrs. A. Thomas, the woman who is alleged to have denuded the home of Mrs. Mabel Akers here of its valuables.

A woman who has been identified as Mrs. Thomas is charged with robbing a house in Kansas City and is under arrest in St. Louis. If the Missouri officials do not desire to prosecute her, Sheriff Kiene wants to bring her back to Topeka for prosecution.

The Y. M. C. A. basketball league formed last week has announced the personnel of its four teams and its schedule for its two months' season. The members of the teams are, many of them, old high school and college basketball stars. Four teams in the league are named after one of the letters of the Y. M. C. A. The following are the players: "Y" team: F. Williams, J. Gillman, R. Knapp, D. Tweedy, C. Marker, Goddell; "M" team: W. Holcombe, G. Shimeall, H. Brown, C. Watson, D. H. Smith; "C" team: C. Plath, W. Remington, F. Myers, C. Arragli, H. Knapp, O. Blahut; "A" team: E. Jenkins, W. Padgett, G. Stevens, W. Peterson.

After Robert Garver, county attorney-elect, had moved the furniture in his office around to suit him the main office looked like a cluttered place. He discovered that the desks covered great holes in the linoleum; that when the walls were last decorated the decorations missed every place behind a filing case or piece of furniture. While the office looked its worst he invited the county commissioners to take a look.

They made the visit today and immediately authorized a tile floor and newly decorated walls.

In a recent publication, "Record Aids in College Management," published by the Institute for Public Service of N. Y. C., mention is made of Washburn college. The book refers to the personnel requirement in the registration of each student. This book is a compilation of the best record forms in use in fifty-three colleges and universities throughout the United States. The purposes of the book are to indicate some progressive tendencies in education and to present a record of records; to show how student welfare and educational efficiency are being promoted by means of meaningful questions and records; and to further higher education, enhance student benefits and lighten the labor of college officers by means of extending and standardizing the use of college records.

Card of Thanks. We desire to extend our sincere thanks to the kind friends and neighbors, who assisted us in our late bereavement, also for the beautiful floral offerings.

JOHN BROWN, CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.—Adv.

Cold, Cough, Headaches and Grip. LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE removes the cause. There is only one "Bromo" that is "BROMO" and "QUININE" in one box. 25c.—Adv.

**RABBITS** Four hundred in today.

**M'RAE GROCERY** 124 Quincy. We give Surety Stamps.

**Christmas Greeting Cards for Less** Regular 15c Cards.....12c Regular 10c Cards.....8c Regular 5c Cards.....5c

**Christmas Books Now 60c** Penrod, Tarkington; Daddy Long Legs, Webster; The Four Million, O. Henry; Inside the Cup, Church; Lullaby, Porter; Mollie Make Believe, Abbott; Tarsan of Apes, Burrows; Martha by the Bay, Lippman.

A popular and useful gift for Lawyers and Traveling Men—**LEATHER BRIEF CASE** \$4.50, \$5.00, \$6.00, \$8.00

A gift for all who write—**SHAEFFER FOUNTAIN PEN** \$2.50, \$3.50, \$4.00, \$5.00

A new case of six dozen to select from. Fine and medium, steel or manifold. We can fit your hand.

**The Office Supply Company** 209 Kansas Avenue.

## NOW FOR THE FINAL RUSH!

**Gibbs Before Christmas Gibbs** Clothing Co. Open Evenings

The next five days will be the busiest and greatest bargain days of all the wonderful days of our great Annual Clearance Sale. A sweeping clearance that embraces each and every one of our many departments and which will enable you to make a choice of practical and useful Christmas Gifts at genuine bargain prices—prices that will enable you to keep from 1/3 to 1/2 of the cash you expected to spend right in your own pocket.



## Final Clearance

Affecting our entire stock of well-selected and thoroughly up-to-the-moment

## Suits and Overcoats for Men

Seasonal conditions have left us with a far larger stock on hand than pleases us this late in the year. We feel it is better to sacrifice a proportion of our profits—to give them to you as savings—than to keep the clothes in stock indefinitely. Opportunities of the kind—to purchase good clothes at the price of last season's—are rare indeed, even at this store. Grasp this one promptly, for it is probably the last of the season.

**\$12.50 Wool Suits and Overcoats.** A good assortment of new patterns and fabrics.....**\$7.50**

**\$15.00 All Wool Suits and Overcoats.** Newest styles, serges, worsteds and cassimeres.....**\$10.50**

**\$22.00 Suits, this season's newest styles, suits tailored by "Studentcraft" Manufacturers.....\$14.75**

**\$15.00 Suits and Overcoats, 150 in this assortment, sizes of Overcoats from 32 to 40; sizes of Suits 32 to 37.....\$4.95**

**Tables Piled High With WINTER FURNISHINGS At Rock-Bottom Prices**

**Boys' Suits and Overcoats** Boys' Suits and Overcoats All \$7.50 Suits and Overcoats.....**\$4.95** All \$4.50 Suits and Overcoats.....**\$3.48** All \$4.00 Suits and Overcoats.....**\$2.98**

**Men's and Boys' Gloves and Mittens** Men's 50c Leather Mittens for.....**39c** Men's 35c Yarn Gloves.....**23c** Men's 75c Leather Mittens.....**50c** Men's \$1.00 Lambs' Wool Lined Mittens and Gloves.....**75c** Men's Extra Heavy.....**\$1.50** Gloves and Mittens.....**\$1.19** All \$1.50 Dress Gloves.....**\$1.25**

**Men's and Boys' Caps** A full assortment of newest styles and patterns. All \$1.00 Caps.....**75c** All 75c Caps.....**50c** All 50c Caps.....**25c**

**Corduroy Pants, Coats and Duck Coats** All \$4.00 Slicker-Lined Duck Coats.....**\$2.98** All \$3.00 Duck Coats.....**\$1.98** Men's \$3.50 Corduroy Pants, guaranteed.....**\$2.79** Men's \$4.00 Corduroy Coats.....**\$2.95** Men's \$3.00 Corduroy Pants.....**\$1.95**

**Christmas Neckwear for Men** 100 dozen beautiful 50c open-end Neckties in neat Christmas box your choice.....**39c**

**MEN'S PANTS** All \$2.00 Pants.....**\$1.48** All \$1.50 Pants.....**98c** All Wool, Hand Tailored \$4.00 Pants.....**\$2.98** All Wool Hand Tailored \$5 and \$6 Pants.....**\$3.98**

**\$1.25 Monarch Dress Shirts for Men** 50 dozen newest patterns, choice.....**\$1.00** Men's \$1.50 Union Suits 95c.....**\$1.00** Men's 75c Shirts and Drawers.....**50c** Men's \$3.50 Wool Union Suits.....**\$2.48** Men's \$3.00 Part Wool Union Suits.....**\$1.98** Men's 50c Shirts and Drawers.....**39c** Men's 25c Wool Hose.....**19c** Men's heavy Rock'd Sox 10c.....**7c** Men's \$1 Sweater Coats 79c.....**59c** Men's \$4.00 Wool Sweaters.....**\$2.95** Men's \$5.00 Rope Stitch Sweaters.....**\$3.95** Men's \$1.25 Blue Overalls 71c.....**\$1.00** Men's 10c Cotton Gloves.....**5c** Men's 15c Jersey Gloves.....**10c** Boys' 65c Union Suits.....**48c** Men's \$1.00 Dress Shirts 65c.....**48c**

**Men's and Boys' Mackinaws** Men's \$5.00 Mackinaws.....**\$3.48** Men's All Wool \$8.50 Mackinaws.....**\$5.50** Men's All Wool \$10.00 Mackinaws.....**\$7.50** Boys' \$2.50 Mackinaws.....**\$1.69** Boys' \$4.00 Mackinaws.....**\$2.98**

**Clearance of all Broken Lots of Men's, Women's and Children's Shoes At Savings of \$1 and \$2 Pair**

**Clearance on Over-shoes and Rubbers** Men's \$1.50 Overshoes.....**\$1.25** Men's \$2.00 Overshoes.....**\$1.48** Men's 4-buckle Arctics.....**\$2.48** Women's \$1.25 Overshoes.....**98c** Women's \$1.00 Rubbers.....**89c** All Rubber Goods Guaranteed

**Women's New Fall Dress Shoes** in Patent, Vici and Dull Leather; all newest styles.....**\$2.48** up to.....**\$2.95**

**Boys' Shoes** Boys' heavy gun metal School Shoes, nailed and sewed soles, strong and durable.....**\$1.69** to.....**\$2.48**

**Misses' and Children's Shoes** Vici, Patent and Gun Metal, cloth or leather tops, strong serviceable shoes for dress or school wear.....**98c, \$1.48, and.....\$1.69**

**One Table Women's Dress Shoes** All styles, all leathers, all sizes, values up to \$3.50—Choice.....**\$1.98**

**Men's \$4.00 Gun Metal Dress Shoes** Button or lace, English last, Clearance Price.....**\$2.98** MEN'S \$3.50 WORK AND DRESS SHOES—Clearance Price.....**\$2.48** Men's \$4.00 Heavy Work Shoes Button or lace, nailed or sewed soles.....**\$2.98**

**COZY "THE LITTLE THEATRE"** Showing Exclusively the Unusual Photo-plays

TODAY AND TOMORROW

**Charlie Chaplin**

"The Funniest Man in the World"

IN

"The Fun Riot of the Age"

**"BEHIND THE SCREEN"**

1,000—SIDE-SPLITTING MOMENTS—1,000

"Chaplin earned half his \$670,000.00 salary when he made, 'Behind the Screen.'"—C. W. Potter, Eve. Herald.

"EXCITING" "LAUGHABLE" "ENTERTAINING"

Added Attraction

**MISS ELLA HALL**

"The Idol of the Screen"

IN

**"THE LOVE GIRL"**

The Best Bluebird This Season

COMING SOON

**MISS WARDA HOWARD**

IN

**"THAT SORT"**

"The Picture of the Year"

## BELL-ANS Absolutely Removes Indigestion. One package proves it. 25c at all druggists.

## 5c 10c IRIS

TODAY and TOMORROW

**Lenora Ulrich**

in

**"THE ROAD TO LOVE"**

(Paramount)

A thrilling romance of the Algerian desert.

**ORPHEUM**

5c 10c Mon.-Tues.-Wed.

**DOROTHY GISH**

In the Triangle feature

**"CHILDREN OF THE FEUD"**

Also a brand new Key-stone comedy that's a world-beater!

**"TUG-BOAT ROMEO"**

**NOVELTY**

THE VOODOO SHOP

MAT. TODAY 3 p.m. TONIGHT

THE SHIELDING SHADOW

7th Edition—and 5-BIG ACTS-5

## ASK CHURCH FOR AID

That is Advice Ward Gives Socialists at Sunday Meeting.

"The Methodist church at its conference last May adopted resolutions encouraging the church to support movements of social welfare, and in your attempts to solve the problem of the H. C. of L. you have the right to call upon the church members of the community for aid," Prof. H. F. Ward, secretary of Methodist Federation for Social Service told the audience at the Socialist mass meeting held Sunday afternoon in the Crystal Theater.

Prof. Ward's speech opened the mass meeting, following which he went to Washington to speak at the Vesper service. His talk was followed by an address on "Ownership of Food Storage Plant," by Prof. E. H. Kleihage of Kansas university, formerly head of the psychology department of Washburn college. Impromptu expressions were given by the audience following his speech. Dr. E. H. Kleihage was called upon and delivered a ten minute assault upon the state school book commission. No definite steps were taken at the meeting to state a "Municipal Storage Plant" ticket of candidates for the next city election. Such action will be taken at a later meeting according to the plan, chairman of the mass meeting.

## R. I. TO PAY \$2,500,000

Federal Court Authorizes Railroad Receiver to Pay Debt.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—Jacob M. Dickinson, receiver for the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railway was authorized by Federal Judge Carpenter today to pay \$2,500,000 worth of receivers certificates which fall due January 1, 1917. The order also calls for the payment of \$42,500 accrued interest.

SEE THE

**KIMBALL**

Before You Buy a Piano—Not After

Topeka Factory Branch

Write If You Cannot Call

822 Kansas Avenue Phone 3168

E. F. Whitmore Manager